Consumer Protection Act, 1986. In addition, the Central Government has accorded approval for setting up District Forums in Gujarat, Goa, Chandigarh and Lakshadweep. State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been repeatedly urged to expedite actions for making redressal machinery functional under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. Some States which have expressed financial difficulties in this regard have been advisesd to provide funds for setting up the redressal machinery under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 from their annual plan allocations through inter-sectoral savings/ adjustments etc.

Production of Agricultural Commodities

245. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated production of agricultural commodities viz. wheat, rice etc., during the current year; and

(b) what steps Government are taking to check the fall in prices of agricultural commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Firm estimates of production of various kharif crops in the current year including rice are not yet available from the States. Sowing of wheat and other rabi crops is still in progress. As such, it is too early to indicate the estimated production of these crops. However, rainfall and weather conditions have been generally favourable and targetted production of these crops is likely to be achieved.

(b) The Government has already announced the procurement/support prices for 1988-89 crores, It is the policy of the Government to purchase all wheat and paddy of prescribed specifications offered for sale at the support price. Adequate arrangements have been made for undertaking market support operations by the public agencies like Food Corporation of India, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation, etc. to ensure that the prices do not fall below the support level.

Report of National Commission on Housing

246. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Housing has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are Government's views on the recommendations made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. No such Commission was set up by the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Schemes for Unemployed Persons

247. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unemployed in the country, especially among the educated classes and those in rural areas;

(b) whether any new job-oriented schemes are being drawn up;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which the unemployment problem is proposed to be tackled in the current and the next Five Year Plans?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) to (d) Information about the total number of unemployed in the country and about the educated unemployed is given in the Seventh Plan document. The policies and Programmes/Schemes